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apology, however gentle and forbearing. The shadows on the historical canvas are deep and dark, because the forces which projected them were mighty and terrible.

WM. B. WEEDEN.

*The Bay Colony: a Civil, Religious and Social History of the Massachusetts Colony and its Settlements, from . . . . 1624 to the death of Winthrop in 1650.* By WILLIAM DUMMER NORTHEND, LL.D. (Boston: Estes and Lauriat. [1896.] Pp. viii, 249.)

THE descendants of the Puritans of New England will not allow the world in any generation to forget the doings of the forefathers. This is a well-written epitome of the story which has been told so many times in the larger histories. The introduction treats of Plymouth colony and the work antecedent to the foundation of Massachusetts Bay. The chapters then move forward in orderly development. The settlements at Cape Ann led to the larger movement of the Bay Colony proper. The full text of the charter is given in an appendix.

Of necessity, the story is founded on Winthrop's journal, and copious extracts are drawn from that masterly piece of history. If the general reader can be induced to read the original for himself, this book will have served a very useful purpose.

Many modern writers seem to fear that the Puritans will suffer unduly, if the ordinary canons of criticism be applied to their work. In this, we think they underrate their heroes, who were really, if not ideally great. Those men were too large and too strong to be injured by any honest criticism. Our author closely follows the deprecating method. He might have profited by opening his mind to the treatment of the Hutchinson case by C. F. Adams. As it is, he goes farther than Winthrop himself in justifying this strange epidemic in early Boston. The same principle applies to the case of Samuel Gorton and similar episodes.

The treatment of Massachusetts Congregationalism (pp. 258-270) is very good, and its effect on English ecclesiastical development is well brought out. Independency, a larger force than Puritan Presbyterianism, was directly encouraged by the New England cult, and by the emigrants who returned home to take part in the rise of the Commonwealth.

The book is interesting and agreeable, as much detail encumbering the larger histories is stripped off or avoided. It ends rather precipitately, with the death of Winthrop.

W. B. W.

*Pennsylvania, Colony and Commonwealth.* By SIDNEY GEORGE FISHER. (Philadelphia: Henry T. Coates and Co. 1897. Pp. xiii, 442.)

IN this little book Mr. Fisher presents, first, a brief sketch of Pennsylvania history prior to the Seven Years' War, then a digression upon commerce, wealth and education, after which he resumes the narrative

and continues it to 1765. He thereupon devotes fifteen pages to a picture of life and manners at the time of the Revolution, considers the rise and progress of that struggle, with particular reference of course to what occurred in Pennsylvania, and gives a number of interesting details about the part taken by eminent Pennsylvanians in the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and in the formation of the Constitution. The last four chapters deal with the Whiskey Rebellion and minor outbreaks, the action of Pennsylvania in the Civil War, and the rise and decline of Philadelphia.

He starts out with the conviction that Pennsylvania belonged to the Quakers, and that the Quakers were heroes, whose achievements he describes until the time when they were driven from their stronghold in the assembly by the Scotch-Irish in 1776. Nevertheless he intimates that not only were the Friends fond of exercising political power, but employed somewhat questionable means to obtain it, as the following extract (p. 91) will show: "The reason why the Quakers were always able to secure the votes of the province, and maintain their supremacy over a people who differed from them in religion and outnumbered them, was partly by the effectiveness of their political organization, and partly through the friendship of the Germans. Every Quaker meeting was a source of political influence and a means of persuading and compelling votes, and by many years of practice and experience the people had become very skillful."

A careful inspection of the work will reveal the fact that, while Mr. Fisher has presented much that is old in a new and attractive garb, his close dependence upon secondary authorities, as well as the evident haste with which portions of the book have been written, resulting in a certain amount of error and repetition, detract somewhat from its value as a contribution to Pennsylvania history. Had he read the sentiments of public spirit expressed in the personal correspondence of Thomas Penn he might not have characterized that proprietor as "suspicious and ill-natured toward the people" (p. 84), or as "hard, narrow and meanly economical" (p. 127). Nor, in his discussion of the taxation of their estates, would he have made the following statement about the proprietors (p. 219)—a statement which cannot be substantiated: "Their pride was broken and their attacks on the liberties of the colony decisively checked. They had intended to use the necessities of the war to curtail provincial rights, but the end of the war brought only a curtailment of their own excesses."

Here are some examples of error: the application of William Penn to Charles II. for the grant of Pennsylvania was made June 14, 1680, not 1681 (p. 4); the proprietor was not authorized, in cases of emergency, to make laws without the consent of the freemen, but to make temporary ordinances, the highly restricted character of which is positively stated in the royal charter; the deeds of enfeoffment granted by the Duke of York, August 24, 1682, could not give Penn any legal title to the three lower counties on the Delaware (p. 13); the annual income

from Pennsylvania enjoyed by the proprietors in 1759 was not about £10,000 (p. 136), but about £4,000; Franklin's *Historical Review* is not "an important historical authority" (p. 216). The proper and legal incorporation into the regular proprietary instructions to Gov. Morris of an order sent by the Privy Council to all the colonial governors in 1740—and declared by the attorney-general to be obligatory upon all succeeding governors—forbidding them to pass any act for the issue of bills of credit without the insertion of a clause suspending its execution until the king's pleasure was made known, can hardly be construed as an attempt on the liberties of the assembly, in which "the proprietors were aided and abetted by the Privy Council" (p. 149). To the student of comparative colonial administration, French and English, furthermore, Mr. Fisher's opinion (p. 150) that if the Pennsylvania assembly had yielded to this and similar attempts "the province might just as well have been conquered by the French," and that "her chance for liberty under the French would have been better," will seem based upon prejudice.

With the exception of such *corrigenda*, which ought not to appear in the composition of a work even primarily designed for popular reading any more than if intended for historical students alone, *Pennsylvania, Colony and Commonwealth*, fulfills its mission well.

WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD.

*The Life of Roger Sherman.* By LEWIS HENRY BOUTELL. (Chicago : A. C. McClurg and Co. 1896. Pp. ix, 361.)

AMONG American statesmen of the last half of the eighteenth century, Roger Sherman can fairly claim a place in the second rank. He is not to be named with Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, John Adams, Madison or Hamilton; but it would be difficult to make up a list of half a dozen more, on any definite principle of selection, from which he would be omitted. From the day when he stood up as one of the committee of five to report to Congress the draft of the Declaration of Independence, until his death, while a member of the Senate in the first year of Washington's second administration, he occupied continuously a conspicuous position among the political leaders of the country.

A biography that has been delayed for a hundred years, for this is the first extended account of Sherman's life that has ever been written, gains something in richness of material from the published diaries and correspondence of contemporaries and opened doors to public archives, but loses more in the separation of its author from the spirit and the familiar talk of the times of which he treats. Mr. Boutell tells a "plain, unvarnished tale," set out with very little of warmth or color. There was, indeed, nothing in his subject to awake enthusiasm. Sherman, while quick-witted and gifted with a keen sense of humor, which he often brought into effective play in debate, was of a self-contained and impassive temperament. Everybody respected and trusted him; he had warm